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IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY-CHAPTER II

"INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT"

5 APPLICANT: Volkhard MAESS et al.

SERIAL NO.: EXAMINER:

FILING DATE: ART UNIT:

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/EP99/10247

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 21 December 1999

10 INVENTION: PRINTING DEVICES WHICH OPERATES WITH AT LEAST THREE BRIGHTNESS STEPS AND METHODS TO BE EXECUTED THEREWITH FOR DETERMINING PRINTING PARAMETERS

15 Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box PCT
Washington D.C. 20231

SIR:

20 In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO-1449 form, copies of which are enclosed herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98, be made during the course of examination of the above mentioned application for United States Patent.

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DISCUSSION OF RELEVANCE

Two references are cited in the International Search Report, and a copy of each is enclosed for the Examiner's review. Both are cited under category A as merely providing background information.

5 Also enclosed is a copy of an action from the German Patent Office in the corresponding foreign application. The German action cites six references, a copy of each being provided herewith.

Favorable consideration of the present application in view of the enclosed art is hereby requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Form P.T.O. 1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office					Docket No. P01,0213		Serial No.
					Applicant Volkhard MAESS et al.		
LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT (use several sheets if necessary)					Filing Date	Group Art Unit	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate
	AA	5,694,223	12/02/97	Katori et al.			
	AB	5,767,888	06/16/98	Schleusener et al.			
	AC	5,241,347	08/31/93	Kodama			
	AD	5,734,948	03/31/98	Nagayama et al.			
	AE	5,877,846	03/02/99	Tahara et al.			
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
	AI	DE 43 43 274 A1	07/21/94	Germany			Yes
	AJ	EP 0 858 205 A1	08/12/98	Europe			No
	AK	WO 97/37285	10/09/97	PCT			
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AO						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
Examiner			Date Considered				
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							